GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3879
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
PROTECTION OF OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLES
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government to protect the Olive Ridley Turtles in the coastal limits of the country ;

(b) whether any special scheme/project is proposed to be undertaken for their protection;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) The efforts made by the Government to protect the Olive Ridley Turtles in the coastal limits of the country are as under :

1. Olive Ridley Turtles are included in the Schedule-1 of the Wildlife

(Protection) Act, 1972 thereby giving highest degree of protection.

2. State Government of Orissa has issued instructions for making use of Turtle Excluder Devise compulsory for all fishing trawlers.

3. Necessary protection covering the nesting beaches of Olive Ridley Turtles is provided by establishing protection camp by Forest Department.

4. Continuous monitoring of nesting sites of Olive Ridley Turtles is carried out by the State Forest Department.

5. Existing communication system has been strengthened among the site camps and forest offices in the coastal areas of Orissa coast.

6. Help of Coast Guards is also undertaken by the State Forests Department for enforcement of better protection.

7. India is a signatory to the Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) and therefore bound to protect the migratory species including Olive Ridley Turtles.

(b) &(c)No Sir.

(d) Adequate protection has been provided under the existing Wildlife

(Protection) Act,1972. Necessary financial assistance is provided to the states under the existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries.